

**Testimony Concerning HB 5844**  
**Jamila HadjSalem**

I would like to thank the Environment Committee for the opportunity to express my support of HB 5844:AN ACT CONCERNING THE OVERNIGHT TETHERING OF DOGS OUTDOORS AND THE TETHERING OF DOGS OUTDOORS UNDER CERTAIN WEATHER CONDITIONS.

I am a registered voter in Stafford Springs, CT.

I am deeply concerned over owners allowing their dogs to be left outside all night, alone and isolated. Dogs tethered 24 hours a day have no quality of life, nor any socialization skills with people. They are social, pack animals, and tethering to a dog house, tree, or what have you, only causes distress and suffering for the dog. Not only are there psychological implications to continual tethering, the physical implications are huge as well. Unsocialized dogs tend to be more afraid of or aggressive to people, which could lead to accidental or purposeful attacks. Plus, leaving a domesticated animal outside all night long, during any weather, is cruel and torturous. No one wants to sit outside shivering in the winter cold, or baking in the summer heat. Even if a doghouse is provided, dogs need more care than just being tied up and left outside.

Please, pass HB 5844, so there's some legislation to back up "doing the right thing."

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to testify and I do hope you will strongly support this important piece of legislation.

Thank you,

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